

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. M:11-11

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Luther King Farm and Grist Mill Site

other

2. Location

street and number 11711 Kingstead Road not for publication

city, town Clarksburg vicinity

county

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James L Clayton et al

street and number 21018 Blunt Rd telephone

city, town Germantown state zip code

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber 17747 folio 268

city, town tax map tax parcel P408 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

M:
Inventory No. 11-11

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This resource includes a dwelling house that was later used as a miller's house, a building associated with whiskey distilling, and the mill site.

The dwelling house is set high on a knoll above the driveway and above the mill site. The main block is a frame, two-story, four-bay structure that faces west. The original section was the south three bays. A front porch across this section has been enclosed. The north bay was added later. The Claytons built a front concrete block kitchen ell, begun about 1952 and completed about 1962. There is a one-story rear addition constructed about 1988. A kitchen wing that was in this location was removed about 1980. A one bay, one story addition on the north gable end shelters the furnace.¹

The building is covered with stucco. Most windows are mid-20th century replacements. Some historic 6/6 sash windows are located on the rear façade. Louvered shutters are fixed and inoperable. The original metal roof was replaced with fiberglass shingles.

Northwest of the house is a one-story, frame outbuilding with 6/6 sash windows and a stone foundation. This building was used for storing whiskey distilled nearby. The structure had a second story that the Claytons removed in 1945 or thereafter. The banked structure has a stone foundation with basement entrance in the west side. The upper level is accessed by a four-panel door on the north side. Siding is covered with asphalt and the gable roof has fiberglass shingles.²

The grist mill once stood about 125 feet northwest of the house. In dilapidated condition by 1945, it was later removed. The mill race is evident from Kingstead Road northwest to the mill site and then northeast above the Kingstead Farm. There is a partial stone dam at the site of the mill pond.

¹ Information about Clayton family changes to the house from interviews Clare Cavicchi had with Anne Clayton (7-25-1990) and James Clayton (2-28-2002).

² Building use described by Douglas King and Anne Clayton, 7-25-1990.

8. Significance

Inventory No. 11-11

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention		
politics/government					
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Luther Green King owned property located along Little Bennett Creek and Kingstead Road, being part of the tract known as Trouble Enough Indeed. He operated a mill complex that included a grist mill, saw mill and cider mill. The mill was described as an "Old Mill" by 1879 when it is shown on the Hopkins Atlas. A road to the mill extended from Kingstead Road to Price's Distillery Road.³

Luther Green King (1825-1909) was the son of John Duckett King. His wives included Tabitha Browning (1823-1873) and Mary Lorena (born 1880), whom he married in 1899.⁴

Luther King operated a whiskey distillery that was located at the end of Kingstead Road, at Burnt Hill Road and Little Bennett Creek. The distillery site is now in Little Bennett Park. Rye grown in local farms was distilled into whiskey. The Luther King House was the site of local entertainment. Locals enjoyed the music of bands that played here regularly and the whiskey that King stored on site.⁵

Luther King owned a house near the mill by 1879, but his residence appears to have been near the distillery. At the time, he owned 60 acres and was described as a distiller. King used the house on a knoll above the mill complex as a miller's house. William Franklin Thompson was the miller from 1908 until the late 1920s.⁶

The mill was in dilapidated condition in the early 20th century and was later demolished.

³ Hopkins 1879 Atlas.

⁴ Dona Cuttler, Montgomery Rural Cemeteries, Kingstead Farm Cemetery, p184.

⁵ Ibid. Interviews with Mrs. Ralph Clayton and Douglas King by Clare Cavicchi, 7-25-1990.

⁶ Dona Cuttler, History of Clarksburg, King's Valley, etc. Heritage Books, 2001, pp 102-105. 1900 census. Hopkins Atlas.

**Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. M; 11-11

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. ^{M:} 11-11

Jopkins 1879 Atlas.

Interviews with Mrs. Ralph Clayton and Douglas King by Clare Cavicchi, 7-25-1990

Dona Cuttler, Montgomery Rural Cemeteries, Kingstead Farm Cemetery, p184.

Dona Cuttler, History of Clarksburg, King's Valley, etc. Heritage Books, 2001, pp 102-105.

Dona Cuttler, Transcription of 1900 census.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 4.88 ac

Acreage of historical setting

Quadrangle name

Quadrangle scale:

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Clare Kelly Cavicchi

organization M-NCPPC

date 5-2004

street & number 8787 Georgia Ave

telephone 301-563-3400

city or town Silver Spring

state MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

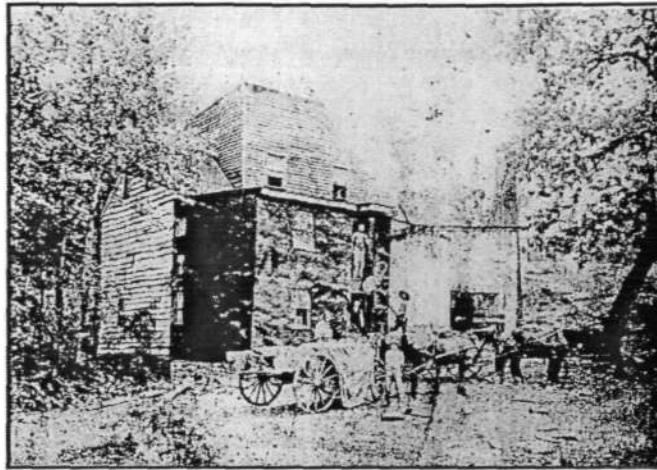
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

M: // - //

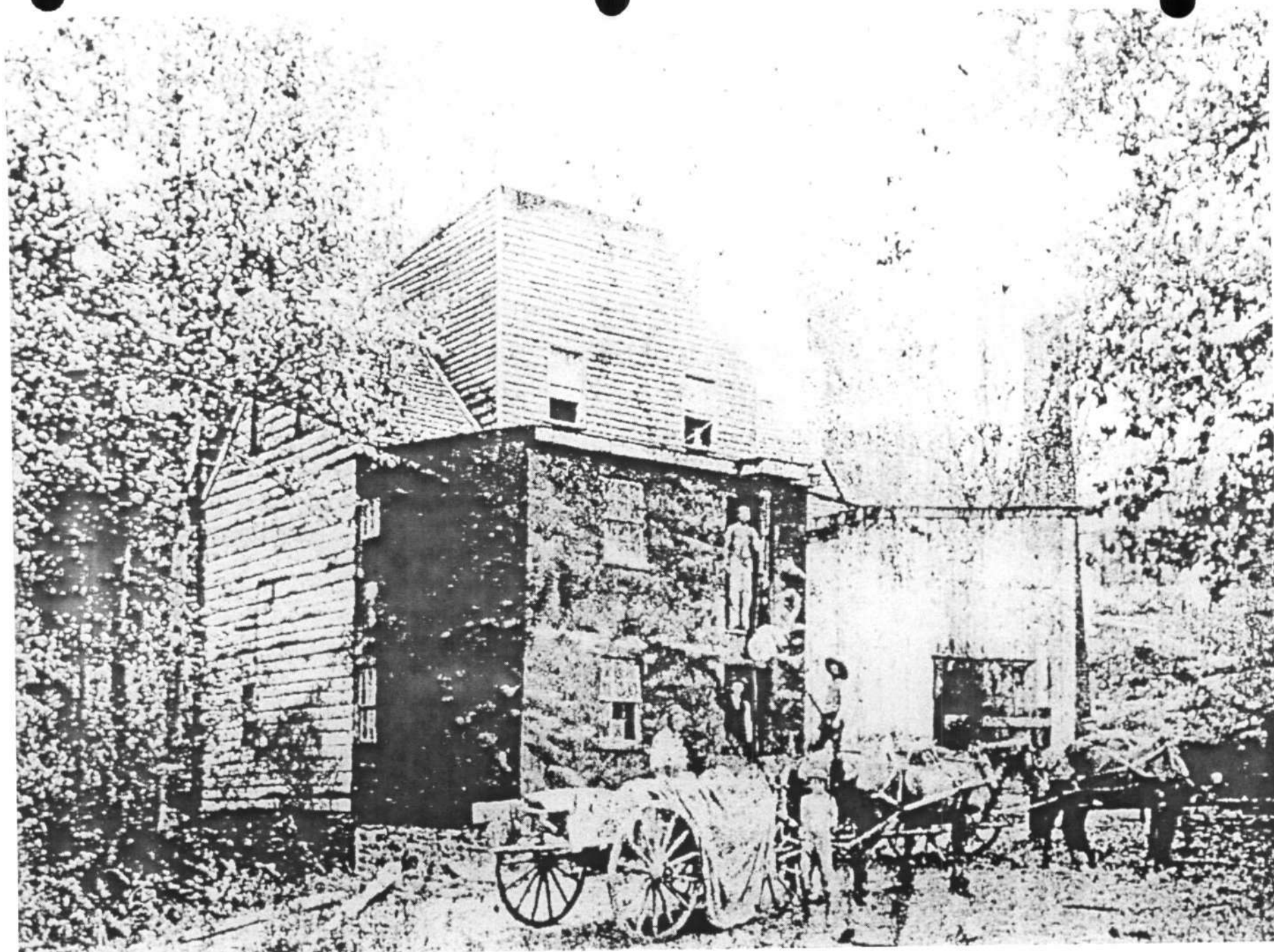
King's Grist Mill - pre 1900



The Mill was originally owned and operated by descendants of John Duckett King. It was located on Kingstead Road south of Damascus. It is now part of 11711 Kingstead Road, the home of Anna Lee Clayton.

Location 65 - King's Grist Mill

Picture 291



M-11-11

4. Hyattstown Miller's House

The miller's house adjacent to Hyattstown Mill predates the mill. Throughout its history, until the 1930's the house served as a residence for the mill owner or miller, the individual in charge of operation the milling machinery. (Not open to the public)

5. Zeigler's Sumac Mill (site)

Sumac Milling was one of the milling activities that engaged the Zeigler family. Sumac, a tall weed that unattended can become a tree, sprouts clumps of deep red berries in the fall. Both the berries and the stem of the plant itself were crushed between milling stones and used in tanning leather. David Zeigler operated the mill from the early to mid 1800s.

6. Zeigler's Saw and Bone Mill (site)

The Zeigler Saw and Bone Mill followed the sumac milling enterprise around 1860 in an adjacent location.

While the saw mill cut through lumber, the bone mill ground animal bones for use by area farmers as fertilizer. The only remnants of the mill are a stone wall and wheel pit. The mill race is still intact and runs parallel with Hyattstown Mill Road.

7. The Perry Browning House

Originally a frame and log structure, the house is now covered by siding. The original log section may date from the late 18th century. The farm and house remained in the Browning family for three generations after purchase of the land by Perry Browning in 1830. (Not open to the public)

8. The Charles Browning House

Built around 1850, this is the former home of Perry Browning's son, Charles. The farm is a good surviving example of a 19th century Montgomery County

farmstead. At the time of Charles Browning's death in 1887, the farm consisted of the main house, tenant houses, a bank barn, granary, wagon shed, carriage and poultry houses. (Not open to the public)

9. Wilson's Mill (site)

Yet another mill utilizing the natural resource of the Little Bennett Creek was the Wilson Saw Mill. Owned by Lee Wilson in the mid 19th century, only faint traces of the mill remain.

10. The Kingsley Schoolhouse

Built in 1893 in an area known locally as "Froggy Hollow," the Kingsley Schoolhouse served the community until it closed in 1935, when the Great Depression forced families looking for work to leave the area. Of the late 19th century one-room schoolhouses still existing in Montgomery County, the Kingsley Schoolhouse is one of the few that remain in a relatively unaltered state. (Not open to the public)

11. King's Distillery (site)

This is the former site of the King Distillery, producers of Maryland rye whiskey, popular in the 19th century. Built in the late 19th century, it ceased to operate around 1907. This distillery was apparently Montgomery County's only whiskey manufactory during that period. In addition, the Kings operated a small cider and saw mill near this location.

Little Bennet Regional Park
23071 Frederick Road
Clarksburg, MD 20871
(301) 972-6581 Park Manager's Office
(301) 972-9458 Naturalist Office
(301) 949-3010 Park Police

Printed on recycled paper

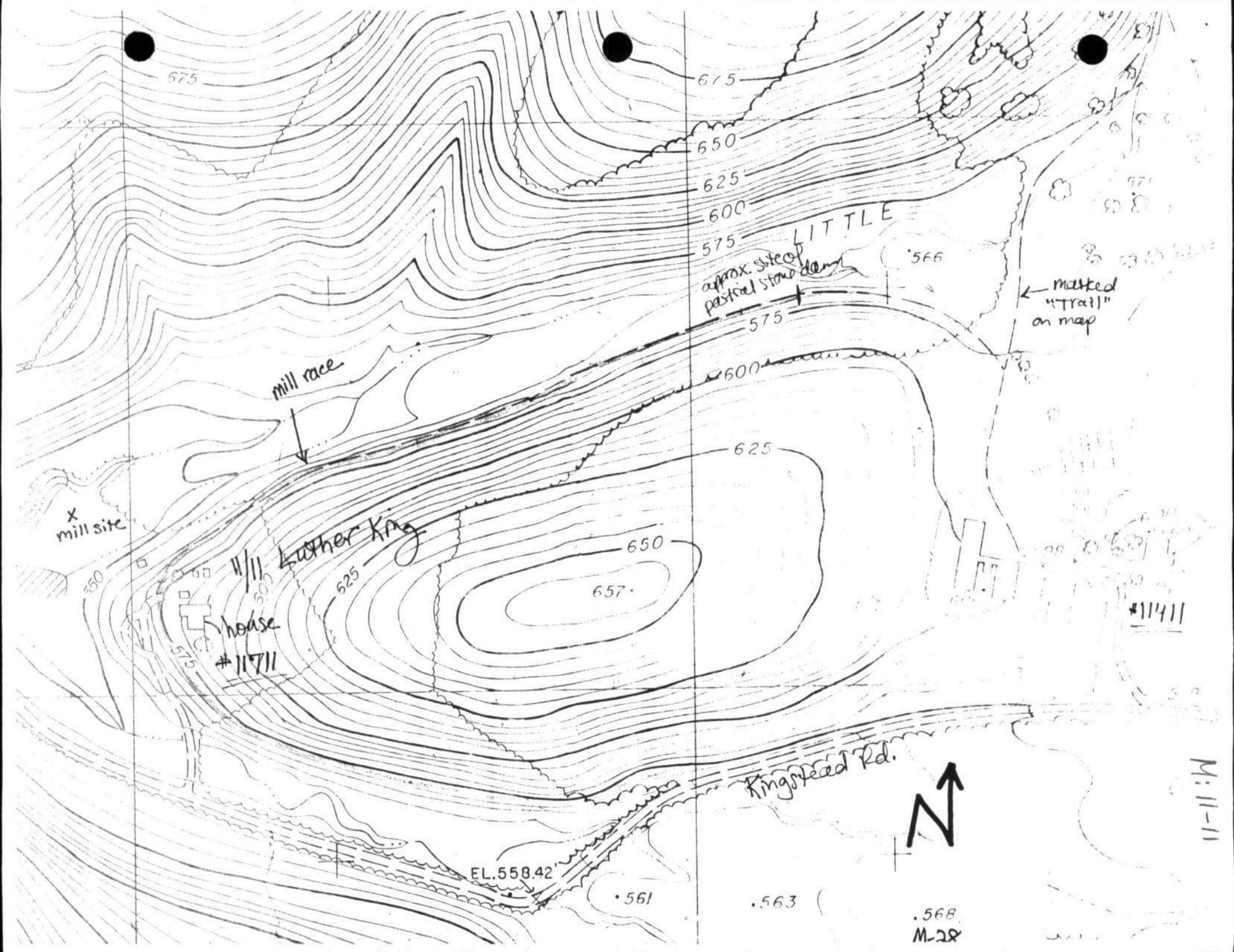
Little Bennett Regional Park

Trails and Historic Sites



The Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission

Montgomery County Park Commission
Department of Parks
Montgomery County, Maryland



675

675

650

625

600

575

566

LITTLE

approx. site of
pastoral stone dam

matted
"trail"
on map

575

600

625

650

657

#11411

X
mill site

house
#11711

Luther King

Kingsteed Rd.

EL.558.42

561

563

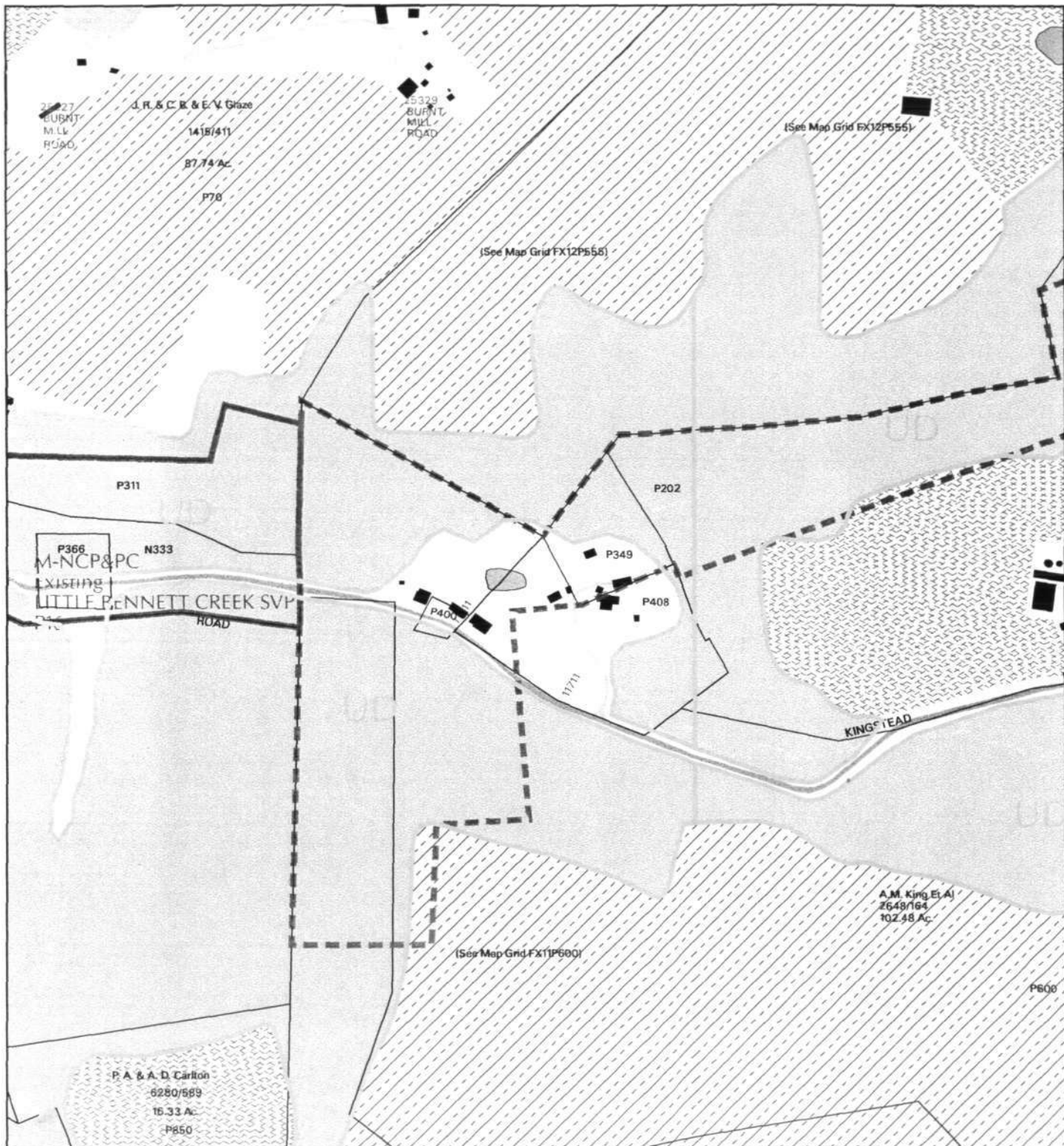
568

M-28

M:11-11

M:11-11

LUTHER KING MILLERS HOUSE AND MILL SITE (11/11)



Map compiled on June 01, 2004 at 10:20 AM | Site located on base sheet no - 235NW12

NOTICE

The planimetric, property, and topographic information shown on this map is based on copyrighted Map Products from the Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning of the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and may not be copied or reproduced without written permission from M-NCPPC.

Property lines are compiled by adjusting the property lines to topography created from aerial photography and should not be interpreted as actual field surveys. Planimetric features were compiled from 1:14400 scale aerial photography using stereo photogrammetric methods.

This map is created from a variety of data sources, and may not reflect the most current conditions in any one location and may not be completely accurate or up to date. All map features are approximately within five feet of their true location. This map may not be the same as a map of the same area plotted at an earlier time as the data is continuously updated. Use of this map, other than for general planning purposes is not recommended. - Copyright 1998

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PARK AND PLANNING

Key Map



Research & Technology Center

0 400

NOTE TO FILE

Historic Sites Research and/or Photography
By Clare Lise Kelly, M-NCPPC
Formerly Clare Lise Cavicchi
301-563-3402

5-2009



M:11/11 LUTHER KING

FRONT - WEST FACADE

048' BAO10QANXON NNN- 3 5352

CLARE CAVICCHI

2-28-2002

CUSTOMER

2537



M: 11/11 LUTHER KING

NORTHEAST CORNER

056 540100N00N 4N01 2 0382

025 CUSTOM FILE 0538
CUARE CAV. COY11

2.28.2002



M: 11/11 LUTHER KING

EAST ELEVATION

352 BAGBATHON HILL 2 6780

826

CUSTOM DU

7539

CLARE CAVICCHI

2.28.2002



M-11:11 LUTHER KING FARM

MILL SITE

045 54010ANXON NMI @ 0032

023:

Custom 44

2536

CLARE CAVICCHI

2.28.2002



M: 11-11 LUTHER KING FARM

SOUTH ELEVATION

PAID 640120NYC01 NMI- 3 #122

022

Custom bu

2535

CLARE CAVICCHI

2.28.2002



M:11-11 LUTHER KING FARM
SOUTH ELEVATION, DISTILLERY BLDG

040 BAG LORRYEN ANN- 3 0382

CLARE CAVILLO

228-2002

Custom Fin

2534



M:11/11 LUTHER KING FARM

WEST FACADE, DISTILLERY

1039 B90100NMON NINN- 3 8382

420 CUSTOM 40 2533
CLARE CAVICCHI

2-28-2002



M: N/A LUTHER KING HOUSE

INTERIOR DOOR, 1ST LEVEL

CLARE CAVICCHI

2.28.2002



M-11-11 LUTHER KING HOUSE

STAIRCASE OPENING, 1ST FLOOR

935 0121001004 4111 1 1100

CLARE CANICCHI

016

Custom File

0531

2.28.2002



M-11-11 LUTHER KING HOUSE
INTERIOR, WINDOW
WEST FACADE, NORTH ROOM

↑ TOP OF PHOTO

CLARE CAVICCHI
2.28.2002



M: 11/11 LUTHER KING

INTERIOR DOOR, 1ST LEVEL

1075 PARLORWAY NIN 10 8382

CLARE CAVICCHI custom bu

2532

2.28.2002



M: II / II LUTHER. KING HOUSE

INTERIOR WINDOW

EAST FACADE, 1ST LEVEL

CARE DAVICCHI

2509

2.28.2002



M: 11-11 LUTHER KING HOUSE

NORTH ROOM MANTEL

229 2401041X01 N414 1 10200

CLARE CAVICCHI

7528

2.28-2002



7:11/11 LUTHER KING HOUSE

INTERIOR WINDOW FRAME

WEST ELEVATION, NORTH ROOM

CLARE CAVICCHI

2.28.2002

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1600865504

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME					
COMMON:					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Luther G. King Farm and Grist Mill Site					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: Kingstead Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Clarksburg					
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____					
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: Zane S. Clayton					
STREET AND NUMBER: Kingstead Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Clarksburg			STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY: None					
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two-story, frame structure with a porch running across the main (west) facade. It probably dates from the 1830's or 1840's.

The mill site is west of the house; the race can be followed along Kingstead Road and in front of the house to the mill site. A second mill dam, beginning the race for King's Distillery and Mill farther west (at Kingstead Road and Burnt Hills Road) is located about 1/4 mile east of the house on the main branch of Little Bennett Creek.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M: 11-11

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☐ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M: 11-11

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newspaper Clipping: County Courier, 12/4/74

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0	'	"		0	'	"	
NE	0	'	"		0	'	"	
SE	0	'	"		0	'	"	
SW	0	'	"		0	'	"	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	
STATE:		COUNTY:	

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 13 Mar 74
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

* National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



OLD MILL.--King's Mill with Trout Pond in background.

NAME KING'S MILL

M: #11-11

LOCATION STOOD AT LITTLE BENNETT CREEK ON KINGSTEAD
RD. NEAR DAMASCUS, MD.

PHOTO TAKEN FROM CO. COURIER